Phila. Oct. 19th 1863.

My dear Garrison

Our decade meeting will soon be upon us and we should be taking measures to be in readiness for it. Nothing is needed but a little brief arrangement on the part of your Board to make it one of the most satisfactory meetings of the series ever held. The citizens of Phila- who are in a state of mind to receive a handsome lecture, will expect to pay and hear something worth handsome treatment. We must put our best foot

formal; and do what we ought to do, to sustain the high Mission that begins to be entertained of us. Our meeting will not be a discussional one - in the old fancy that word. We shall have no dirty linen to wash in the presence of the Lord. But of course it should be - like all such occasions - a free meeting; but to all in proper order and with proper restrictions.

It seems to me that we will do well to rely on circulars & invitations more than on Meetings. Contrary to Landbelly & Newspapers, as means of bringing our friends together. Our leading men & women from all parts of the County should be on hand. Other leading men (& women) not known to identified with us, but now in sympathy with our movement should be also invited. Political men - Professional men - (Military men?) &c &c. &

for instance Lew W Julian - John A Bingham
Neddum Stearns - (Earl Dement. Earl
Van Buster, Earl Hunter?) Colby Lunmer -
Henry Wilson - of course J S Watson -
Smith Smith &c &c
of course Gillespy, Porter, A T. Foss
and other faithful men whose labors have
aided to bring us to our present glorious
point of advancement, would perhaps be among
the men to be head. John Hickman, Justice
Kelley & others of that ilk from among us
will naturally be worked to lend the words of testi-
mony & words of cheer. — Olden thank you
and at your earliest convenience
this matter before your board. There is no time to lose.
There is no time to wait till I
can do it
more deliberately. With best love
Oh I am a
Dear Sam
Gen. Ely
1863